

Inside ICE

ICE DISCOVERS ARMS TRAFFICKING

In the span of a week, ICE agents in New Haven, Boston, Los Angeles and Philadelphia have uncovered four separate plots to illegally export sensitive U.S. technology and munitions to China, Iran and elsewhere.

On May 6, ICE agents at Los Angeles International Airport arrested John Chu, 44, of Pasadena, Calif., and Zhu Zhaoxin, 55, of Shenzhen, China, on charges of conspiring to purchase U.S. defense articles, including sensitive satellite and radar technology, for illegal export to China.

In the second case, federal prosecutors in New Haven unsealed an indictment on May 10 against two South Korean nationals, Kwonhwan Park and Sun-ryul Chun, charged with illegally exporting military helicopter engines and thermal imaging technology to China.

Agents from ICE and the Defense Criminal Investigative Service (DCIS) arrested Park on April 1, 2004, at Dulles International Airport in Virginia as he was boarding a plane bound for China. Inside his luggage, agents found helmet mounted, military night vision equipment, a controlled military item. Chun, the



Kwonhwan Park was indicted on May 10 following his arrested by ICE agents at Dulles International Airport in Virginia as he attempted to board an aircraft for China with U.S. military night vision equipment, similar to that shown above, hidden in his luggage. His accomplice, Sun-ryul Chun, was arrested by ICE agents May 21.

other defendant, was arrested May 21.

In the third case, on May 10, Rotair Industries, Inc., a helicopter parts firm in Connecticut, pleaded guilty to two counts of illegally exporting defense articles from the United States.

In the fourth case, on May 11, a federal grand jury indicted Erik Kyriacou, 24, of Houston, on charges of illegally exporting sensi-

tive night vision lenses to Iran. Kyriacou was trying to sell four Astroscope night vision lenses on the Internet. Undercover ICE agents approached Kyriacou with an offer to purchase the lenses and illegally ship them to Iran. ICE agents arrested Kyriacou April 12.

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ICE WINS MAJOR CASE AGAINST HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSER

ICE attorneys won an important victory on April 27 when a Los Angeles Immigration Judge (IJ) ordered a Vietnamese man deported as a human rights abuser.

In an unusual eight-hour oral decision, IJ D.D. Sitgraves sustained ICE's charges that Vietnamese refugee Thi Dinh Bui had abused detainees at a re-education camp in Vietnam from 1978 to 1981. Bui, a captain in the South Vietnamese army, had been sent to the camp in 1978 as a detainee but was later made a "disciplinary enforcer" for the camp guards.

Bui was admitted to the United States as a refugee in 1994 and became a lawful permanent resident in 1996. A Virginia-based non-governmental organization initially provided information identifying Bui as a human rights abuser, triggering an ICE investigation that found other camp survivors who

confirmed his brutal mistreatment of prisoners.

Bui was arrested by ICE agents in August 2003 and detained in ICE custody without bond. Based upon his persecution of others at the camp, Bui was charged as inadmissible to the United States at the time of his entry, and as being present in the United States in violation of law.

ICE attorneys presented the testimony of eight former camp prisoners, an expert witness, multiple declarations, victim impact statements and extensive background information. The testimony included that of a witness who traveled from New Zealand and provided a firsthand account of Bui's participation in the beating, torture and starvation of prisoners.

IJ Sitgraves ordered Bui removed from the United States and denied all applications for relief filed by

Bui's attorneys. Citing Bui's "heinous crimes and total disregard of human rights toward his fellow inmates," IJ Sitgraves also denied Bui's request that he be allowed to voluntarily depart the United States. William B. Odencrantz, ICE Director, Field Legal Operations, praised the work of ICE attorneys Robert L. Bryant, Rodin Rooyani and Tracy Nguyen, who handled the case. "They did a terrific job," Odencrantz said. "It is a cardinal example of diligent case preparation, good case organization, thorough legal research, quality legal writing and a very fine job of oral advocacy."

Odencrantz also praised the witnesses, saying "These victims, having found a refuge from persecution, should not have to walk along the streets of the United States and risk a chance encounter with the very person who persecuted, tortured and mistreated them."

ICE CYBER TRACKING FINDS, DEPORTS MURDER SUSPECT

For the first time in ICE history, a fugitive wanted by the government of Mexico has been located by ICE agents tracking his e-mail traffic across international boundaries.

The ICE Attaché Office in Mexico City teamed with the Mexican government, Interpol, the ICE Cyber Crimes Center in Washington D.C. and the ICE Milwaukee Detention and Removal Office to locate and arrest an accused murderer who fled to Chicago.

Jose Luis Decuir-Morales, 34, was wanted for the 2003 murder of his father-in-law in Veracruz, Mexico. Decuir-Morales was located after the ICE International Attaché Office worked with the ICE Cyber Crimes Center in Virginia to identify the specific location from which he sent the emails to Mexico. Using this information, ICE discovered that Decuir-Morales was in the United States and passed the information to the ICE Detention and Removal Office (DRO) in Milwaukee. DRO officers arrested Decuir-Morales and transported him to the Mexican border, where they turned him over to Mexican Federal Preventative Police in El Paso.

Another fugitive, Aurelio Govea Martinez, 55, wanted for the 1996 murders of two men in Tacambaro, Michoacan, was also removed at the

same time. Both suspects fled Mexico after committing the murders. An investigation revealed they entered the United States illegally, and both were subject to deportation.



ICE Detention and Removal officers escort two accused murderers to the Mexican border where they were released to the custody of Mexican police.

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Russ Bergeron
Editor

AMO PROTECTS NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION AIRSPACE

In an event May 14 at Ronald Reagan National Airport in Washington, D.C., senior ICE officials highlighted the improved airspace security system established over the nation's capital. ICE also unveiled a sophisticated new multi-role enforcement aircraft.

In January 2003, ICE's Office of Air and Marine Operations (AMO), in partnership with the Department of Defense (DOD) and other agencies, was tasked with creating an improved airspace security operation over the National Capital Region (NCR), roughly 3,000 square miles of airspace that includes the three major commercial airports in the area. The goal was to better protect this region against aerial threats.

Previously, there were more than 180 unauthorized aircraft intrusions into the restricted area around the Capital. Many were intercepted by U.S. military jets, but there was no law enforcement system in place to investigate and identify the aircraft in real time. Now, ICE and its partners at DOD and other agencies have created an airspace security system that can identify, investigate, intercept and deter suspicious aircraft.

Since January 2003, ICE AMO radar specialists have identified more



With a Black Hawk helicopter in the background, ICE AMO Director Charles Stallworth discusses the progress made in protecting the airspace over the nation's capital.

than 2,000 aircraft "of interest." ICE flight crews have launched their aircraft more than 350 times. There have been only about 30 illegal intrusions by aircraft into the Flight Restricted Zone. Each of these aircraft was tracked, identified, investigated and found to be non-threatening -- a capacity not possible before.

"I am proud to highlight the important role played by ICE's Office of Air and Marine Operations in securing the vital airspace over our nation's capital on a 24/7 basis," said

These results reflect the coordinated ground and air effort that ICE brings to this mission. On the ground, ICE AMO radar detection specialists work with DOD and the Federal Aviation Administration. Experts at sorting radar, these individuals determine if aircraft approaching or flying in the area are operating without proper authorization or in a suspicious manner. These specialists operate from the multi-agency National Capital Region Coordination Center in Virginia.

Working closely with the radar detection specialists are ICE AMO flight crews stationed at Reagan National Airport. Operating on a 24/7 basis, these crews fly UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters and Cessna Citation interceptor jets.

At the ceremony, ICE's AMO unveiled the Pilatus (PC-12), a sophisticated single-engine turbo-prop aircraft that will replace the aging C-12 aircraft currently in AMO's fleet. The aircraft is particularly well suited for the northern border, and AMO will be deploying the Pilatus to Bellingham, Wash.



The Pilatus PC-12 will update the ICE AMO air fleet and will initially be deployed to Bellingham, Wash.

FORMAN SAYS ICE TARGETING TERROR FINANCE METHODS

The head of ICE's financial investigations told a Congressional subcommittee that ICE is targeting the methods through which terrorist and criminal organizations earn, move and store their funds.

Marcy Forman, Deputy Assistant Director for Financial Investigations in ICE's Office of Investigations, testified May 11 before the House Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, Drug Policy and Human Resources.

"ICE continues its proud history as a recognized leader in investigating and uncovering the types of financial crime and money laundering that undermine America's security," Forman said.

Forman testified that ICE's Cornerstone initiative is integral to ICE's financial investigations. Cornerstone provides a systemic approach to identifying vulnerabilities in the financial and trade sectors based on collaboration between ICE and the private sector.

"Cornerstone coordinates ICE's diverse array of commercial, trade and financial investigations toward the common goal of targeting the methods through which terrorist and criminal organizations earn, move and store their illicit proceeds," Forman told the subcommittee.

Forman said that Cornerstone goes beyond the tradi-

tional investigative approach. Cornerstone provides the comprehensive investigative and intelligence resources necessary to track trends in criminal and terrorist financing schemes. Rather than attempting to target and investigate specific terrorist organizations and how they raise their money, Cornerstone targets the criminal methods themselves – identifying and shutting down the vulnerabilities in commercial, trade and financial systems exploited by criminal and terrorist organizations.

In addition to developing close ties with private industry, Forman noted that ICE has formed a strong partnership with the FBI, developing and implementing joint protocols to share information. ICE also works closely with other agencies in the Department of Homeland Security and other federal, state and local governments as well, she said.

"ICE has the flexibility to adapt to the ever-changing patterns of terrorist and criminal schemes," Forman said.



Marcy Forman

TORRES SAYS ICE FIGHTING HUMAN SMUGGLERS, TRAFFICKERS

Testifying before a House subcommittee, the chief of ICE's operations against human smugglers and traffickers said the agency is bringing new tactics and determination to fight the increased sophistication of criminal human smuggling and trafficking organizations.

John P. Torres, ICE's Deputy Assistant Director for Smuggling and Public Safety, testified May 18 before the House Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security and Claims. He said ICE's fight against human traffickers and smugglers was extremely important because terrorists could exploit the smuggling pipeline.

"We brought our expertise in immigration, customs, and money laundering investigations into a partnership with other stakeholders at the Arizona border," Torres said. "Since we launched ICE Storm, we've prosecuted more than 190 defendants for human smuggling, kidnapping, money laundering and weapons and drug violations. We've seized over 100 weapons and over \$5.2 million."

Torres said smuggling and trafficking generate an estimated \$9.5 billion for criminal organizations, profits often used to support other criminal activities. He said

smuggling organizations have become ruthless in dealing with their human cargo, citing cases where aliens had been kidnapped, tortured, raped and left to die.

"Smugglers and traffickers show a shockingly callous disregard for the lives in their charge," Torres said. "In too many cases, the victims flee poverty or abuse, only to be forced to travel in squalid conditions without adequate food, water or air. Arriving at their destinations, they are frequently subject to brutal violence, forced labor and sexual exploitation."

Torres said ICE is working to address the exploitative dimension of human trafficking, noting that a disturbingly large number of trafficking cases center on women and children forced into prostitution and sexual slavery. Torres said ICE had stepped up its investigations of these exploitative practices and cited several cases where traffickers had been arrested, convicted and sentenced to long prison terms.



John P. Torres

CIA COMMENDS ICE'S SA CHAPARRO FOR COUNTER-TERRORISM EFFORTS



SA James Chaparro

ICE Special Agent James Chaparro, Director of the Human Smuggling and Trafficking Center, has received an award from the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) for exceptional and valuable service.

Mr. Chaparro was recognized for his outstanding work on the National Security Council's Interagency Working Group (IWG) and Targeting Committee. The IWG is composed of several Federal law enforcement agencies, the Department of State and members of the national intelligence community. The IWG Targeting Committee seeks to identify and dismantle human global smuggling organizations that present the greatest threats to national security.

In a letter to Assistant Secretary Michael Garcia, Richard W. Hoch, Chief of the Terrorist Infrastructure Group at the CIA's Counterterrorist Center, said Mr. Chapparo's work was "critical to the government's sustained offensive efforts against terrorist mobility threats, especially to U.S. borders." Mr. Hoch said Mr. Chapparo's work since January 2002 had lead to the disruption of nine smuggling and fraudulent document organizations with links to terrorist groups.

ICE ARRESTS HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATOR WITH LINKS TO GENOCIDE IN RWANDA

ICE special agents arrested a human rights violator who entered the United States by falsely claiming he was a Rwanda genocide victim.

Jean-Marie Vianney Mudahinyuka, 44, was arrested in Chicago May 12 after a brief struggle. He faces visa fraud charges for lying about his role in the Rwanda genocide. During the arrest, he attempted to grab an agent's weapon. He has been charged with assaulting a federal officer.

Mudahinyuka is accused of participating in the Rwanda genocide that killed 800,000 people a decade ago. Using the alias Thierry Rugamba, he gained entry to the United States four years ago as a refugee, falsely claiming he was a victim of the 1994 genocide. Instead, Mudahinyuka was reportedly a member of the Hutu militia that committed crimes against humanity, including murders and rapes.

He received refugee status April 12, 2000, but witnesses in Chicago identified him as a perpetrator of genocide. Rwanda has issued a warrant for the arrest of Mudahinyuka on charges of genocide and crimes against humanity.

MIAMI ICE DISCOVERS HEADSHOP PARAPHERNALIA TARGETING KIDS

ICE agents in Miami seized thousands of pieces of drug paraphernalia from a warehouse May 3 that is suspected of supplying "headshops" nationwide with the tools most popular with drug users and dealers.

Many of the items seized were decorated with popular cartoons and graphics that are enticing to children. Some items were disguised as lipstick tubes and high-lighter pens.

Items seized include "bongs," metal and glass smoking pipes, "roach" clips, and other items used for smoking marijuana, hash or crack cocaine. Also seized were glass vials and glassine baggies used to repackage drugs into smaller quantities.



"These things clearly show that drug dealers and headshop owners think of kids as just another crop of future customers," said Jesus Torres, ICE's special agent-in-charge for Miami. "Why would anyone put a superhero cartoon on a hash pipe unless they want an 8 or 10-year-old kid to be put at ease by it or to actually use it? It just shows the depths to which these people will stoop to reach kids."

ICE agents in Miami seized a warehouse with thousands of drug paraphernalia items similar to those show above. Many of the items were decorated with popular cartoon characters and other graphics that appeal to children.

The operation is a continuing ICE effort in South Florida to investigate and disrupt the illegal drug trade in the United States by zeroing in on suppliers, wholesalers and resellers.

"We have no intention of letting up," said Torres, "and we'll continue to use every law enforcement resource available to fight the illegal drug industry from every angle we can."

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425 I St NW
Washington, D.C. 20536
Attn: Office of Public Affairs

Russ Bergeron, Editor
Phone: 202-514-2648
Fax: 202-514-1776
Email: Russ.Bergeron@dhs.gov

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U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), responsible for the enforcement of border, economic, infrastructure and transportation security laws.

ICE seeks to prevent acts of terrorism by targeting the people, money and materials that support terrorist and criminal activities.

IN MEMORY



*ICE Director of Investigations
John Clark places a rose on a wreath
in memory of all ICE officers lost in
the line of duty. The ceremony was part
of ICE's observance of Police Week.*